In the Claims

Pursuant to the Examiner's objection, misnumbered Claims 1-82 have been renumbered 1-81. For the sake of clarity, Claims 1-30 remain as originally numbered, and Claims 32-82 have been renumbered to be Claims 31-81. Thus, cancelled Claim 47 from Amendment A is renumbered as cancelled Claim 46.

Based on the foregoing renumbered claims, please amend Claims 1-11, 13, 17, 21-34, 38-43, 47-55, 57-60, 62-65 and 71-81. Please cancel Claims 12, 14-16, 35-37, 44-46, 56, 61 and 66-70. A courtesy clean copy of the claims as amended in this Amendment B is enclosed as an attachment hereto. Please amend the claims as follows:

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) A An electronic bill presentment and payment system for
- presenting and paying bills, bills via the Internet, said system comprising:
- parsing functionality which is adapted to parse billing data from a plurality
- of billers using rules of conversion according to which said parsing functionality is
- 5 programmed, corresponding to a plurality of data types, and to provide relevant
- 6 information information; for further use by said system;
- a common document model processing functionality adapted to transform
- said relevant information into a common document model, wherein said common
- 9 document model is adapted to accommodate said relevant information from said
- plurality of billers and according to said plurality of data types;

- a database adapted to store said transformed information from 11 said common document model processing functionality; and
- presentation functionality adapted to retrieve information from said 13
- database and output at least some of said information via a network for use by bill 14
- payers. 15

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- 2. (Currently Amended) The system according to elaim Claim 1, wherein said 1
- parsing functionality is adapted to parse data from a print stream of data provided 2
- by said plurality of billers. 3
- 3. (Currently Amended) The system according to elaim Claim 1, wherein said 1
- parsing functionality is adapted to parse data from a data interchange stream of 2
- data provided by said plurality of billers. 3
- 4. (Currently Amended) The system according to elaim Claim 1, wherein said 1
- parsing functionality is adapted to parse data from a financial data stream provided 2
- by said plurality of billers. 3
- 5. (Currently Amended) The system according to elaim Claim 1, wherein said 1
- presentation functionality is adapted to output information for use by said bill 2
- payers using financial software. 3
- 6. (Currently Amended) The system according to elaim Claim 1, wherein said 1
- presentation functionality is adapted to output information for use by said bill 2

- 3 payers not using financial software.
- 7. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 6, wherein said
- 2 presentation functionality is adapted to output information for use by said bill
- 3 payers using a browser.
- 8. (Currently Amended) The system according to elaim Claim 1, wherein said
- 2 presentation functionality employs style sheet functionality in order to render
- 3 information in a form suitable for said bill payers.
- 9. (Currently Amended) The system according to elaim Claim 6, wherein
- 2 information is provided to said bill payers using markup language.
- 1 10. (Currently Amended) The system according to elaim Claim 1, further
- 2 comprising an interactivity functionality adapted to detect and respond to
- 3 communications from said bill payers, payers by at least (i) retrieving information
- 4 from said database and presenting it to said bill payers in a form requested by said
- 5 bill payers; and (ii) altering information in said database corresponding to said bill
- 6 payers according to said communications.
- 1 11. (Currently Amended) The system according to elaim Claim 1, further
- 2 comprising interactivity functionality adapted to detect and respond to
- 3 communications from said plurality of billers by at least retrieving information
- 4 from said database information corresponding to said plurality of billers and

- 5 presenting it to said plurality of billers in a form requested by said plurality of
- 6 billers.
- 1 12. (Cancelled)
- 1 13. (Currently Amended) The system according to elaim Claim 1, further
- 2 comprising a biller interface coupled to said database adapted to allow said
- 3 plurality of billers to alter appearance and content of bills presented to said bill
- 4 payers, payers, said biller interface allowing said plurality of billers to
- 5 communicate with said bill payers regarding said bills.
- 1 14. (Cancelled)
- 1 15. (Cancelled)
- 1 16. (Cancelled)
- 1 17. (Currently Amended) The system according to elaim Claim 1, further
- 2 comprising a financial source interface adapted to send and receive
- 3 communications to and from at least one financial entity and to alter information
- 4 in said database according to said financial source communications.
- 1 18. (Cancelled)
- 1 19. (Cancelled)

- 1 20. (Cancelled)
- 1 21. (Currently Amended) A method of providing electronic bill presentment and
- 2 payment services, said method comprising the steps of:
- extracting relevant information from billing data, corresponding to a
- 4 plurality of data types, from a plurality of billers using rules of conversion;
- transforming said relevant information into a common document model,
- 6 which common document model is adapted to accommodate said relevant
- 7 information from said plurality of billers and according to said plurality of data
- 8 types;
- storing said transformed information from said common document model
- in a database; and
- retrieving said transformed information from said database and outputting
- at least some of said information via a network for use by bill payers.
- 22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim Claim 21, wherein said billing data
- 2 is extracted from a print stream of data provided by said plurality of billers.
- 1 23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein said billing data is
- 2 extracted from a data interchange stream of data provided by said plurality of
- 3 billers.
- 24. (Currently Amended) The method of elaim Claim 21, wherein said billing data

- 2 is extracted from a financial data stream provided by said plurality of billers.
- 25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim Claim 21, wherein said at least
- 2 some of said information is output for use by said bill payers using financial
- 3 software.
- 26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim Claim 21, wherein said at least
- some of said information is output for use by said bill payers not using financial
- 3 software.
- 27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim Claim 21, wherein said at least
- some of said information is output for use by said bill payers using a browser.
- 28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim Claim 21, wherein said at least
- some of said information is output using style sheet functionality in order to render
- 3 information in a form suitable for said bill payers.
- 29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim Claim 26, wherein said at least
- 2 some of said information is provided to said bill payers using markup language.
- 30. (Currently Amended) The method of elaim Claim 21, further comprising the
- step of detecting and responding to communications from bill payers, payers by at
- least (i) retrieving information from said database and presenting it to said bill
- 4 payers in a form requested by said bill payers and (ii) altering information in said
- 5 database corresponding to said bill payers according to said communications.

- 1 32. 31. (Currently Amended) The method of elaim Claim 21, further comprising
- the step of detecting and responding to communications from said plurality of
- 3 billers, billers by at least retrieving information from said database information
- 4 corresponding to said plurality of billers and presenting it to said plurality of
- 5 billers in a form requested by said plurality of billers.
- 1 33. 32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim Claim 21, further comprising
- the step of allowing said plurality of billers to alter appearance and content of bills
- 3 presented to said bill payers.
- 34. 33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 33, Claim 32, further
- 2 comprising the step of allowing said plurality of billers to communicate with said
- 3 bill payers regarding said bills.
- 1 35. 34. (Currently Amended) The method of claim Claim 21, further comprising
- the step of sending and receiving communications to and from at least one
- 3 financial entity and altering and storing information according to said
- 4 communications.
- 1 36. 35. (Cancelled)
- 1 37. 36. (Cancelled)
- 1 38. 37. (Cancelled)

- 39. 38. (Currently Amended) A An electronic bill presentment and payment
- system for presenting and paying bills, bills via the Internet, said system
- 3 comprising:
- an extractor functionality which is adapted to parse billing data from a
- 5 plurality of billers using rules of conversion according to which the extractor
- functionality is programmed, corresponding to a plurality of data types, and to
- 7 provide relevant information for further use by said system; information, said
- rules of conversion being a rules application process, allowing a user to generate a
- 9 translator for parsing the billing data into a common document tree;
- a common document model processing functionality adapted to transform
- said relevant information into a common document model, which said common
- document model is adapted to accommodate said relevant information from said
- plurality of billers and according to said plurality of data types; types, wherein said
- 14 common document tree contains data and attributes which are mapped into nodes
- which fit said common document model for storage;
- a database adapted to store said transformed information from said common
- 17 document model processing functionality; and
- presentation functionality adapted to retrieve information from
- said database and output at least some of said information via a network for use by
- bill payers; and

- a bill payer interface coupled to said database adapted to allow said bill payers to pay bills electronically.
- 1 40. 39. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 39, Claim 38, wherein said
- 2 interface is adapted to allow said bill payers to specify the location of said output.
- 1 41. 40. (Currently Amended) A An electronic bill presentment and payment
- system for presenting and paying bills, bills via the Internet, said system
- 3 comprising:
- 4 parsing functionality which is adapted to parse billing data from a plurality
- of billers using rules of conversion according to which the parsing functionality is
- 6 programmed, corresponding to a plurality of data types, and to provide relevant
- 7 information for further use by said system; information, said rules of conversion
- being a rules application process, allowing a user to generate a translator for
- 9 parsing the billing data into a common document tree;
- a common document model processing functionality adapted to transform
- said relevant information into a common document model, which said common
- document model is adapted to accommodate said relevant information from said
- plurality of billers and according to said plurality of data types; types, wherein said
- 14 common document tree contains data and attributes which are mapped into nodes
- which fit said common document model for storage;
- a database adapted to store said transformed information from said common

- 17 document model processing functionality;
- a presentation functionality adapted to retrieve information from said
- database and output at least some of said information via a network for use by bill
- 20 payers; and
- a biller interface coupled to said database adapted to allow said plurality of
- billers to identify market segments of said bill payers according to market rules
- 23 and information retrieved from said database.
- 42: 41. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 41, Claim 40, wherein
- said biller interface is further adapted to allow said plurality of billers to alter
- appearance and content of bills presented to said bill payers based on said market
- 4 segments.
- 1 43. 42. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 41, Claim 40, wherein
- said biller interface is further adapted to allow said plurality of billers to send
- marketing messages to said bill payers based on said market segments.
- 44. 43. (Currently Amended) A system according to elaim 41, Claim 40, wherein
- said biller interface is further adapted to allow said plurality of billers to
- 3 communicate with said bill payers regarding said bills based on said market
- 4 segments.
- 1 45. 44. (Cancelled)

- 1 46. 45. (Cancelled)
- 1 47. 46. (Previously Cancelled)
- 1 48. 47. (Currently Amended) A An electronic bill presentment and payment
- 2 system for presenting and paying bills, bills via the Internet, said system
- 3 comprising:
- 4 parsing functionality which is adapted to parse billing data from a plurality
- of billers using rules of conversion according to which the parsing functionality is
- 6 programmed, corresponding to a plurality of data types, and to provide relevant
- 7 information for further use by said system; information, said rules of conversion
- being a rules application process, allowing a user to generate a translator for
- 9 parsing the billing data into a common document tree;
- a common document model processing functionality adapted to transform
- said relevant information into a common document model, which said common
- document model is adapted to accommodate relevant information from said
- plurality of billers and according to said plurality of data types; types, wherein said
- 14 common document tree contains data and attributes which are mapped into nodes
- 15 which fit said common document model for storage;
- a database adapted to store said transformed information from said common
- 17 document model processing functionality;
- a presentation functionality adapted to retrieve information from said

- database and output at least some of said information via a network for use by bill payers; and
- an agent interface coupled to said database adapted to allow a plurality of agents having agency relationships with said plurality of billers to communicate with said bill payers regarding bills.
- 1 49. 48. (Currently Amended) A system according to elaim 48, Claim 47, wherein
- 2 said plurality of agents interface is further adapted to allow said plurality of agents
- to communicate with said plurality of billers regarding said bills of said bill
- 4 payers.
- 50. 49. (Currently Amended) A An electronic bill presentment and payment
- 2 system for presenting and paying bills, bills via the Internet, said system
- 3 comprising:
- 4 parsing functionality which is adapted to parse billing data from a plurality
- of billers using rules of conversion according to which the parsing functionality is
- 6 programmed, corresponding to a plurality of data types, and to provide relevant
- 7 information for further use by said system; information, said rules of conversion
- 8 being a rules application process, allowing a user to generate a translator for
- 9 parsing the billing data into a common document tree;
- a common document model processing functionality adapted to transform
- said relevant information into a common document model, which said common

12	document model is adapted to accommodate relevant information from said
13	plurality of billers and according to said plurality of data types, types, wherein said
14	common document tree contains data and attributes which are mapped into nodes
15	which fit said common document model for storage;
16	a database adapted to store said transformed information from said common
17	document model processing functionality;
18	a presentation functionality adapted to retrieve information from said
19	database and output at least some of said information via a network for use by bill
20	payers;
21	bill payer interactivity functionality adapted to detect and respond to
22	communications from said bill payers, payers by at least retrieving information
23	from said database information corresponding to said bill payers and presenting
24	said information to said bill payers in a form requested by said bill payers; and
25	biller interactivity functionality adapted to detect and respond to
26	communications from said plurality of billers, billers by at least retrieving
27	information from said database information corresponding to said plurality of
28	billers and presenting said information to said plurality of billers in a form
29	requested by said plurality of billers.
1	51. 50. (Currently Amended) A system according to elaim 50, Claim 49, wherein
2	said biller interactivity functionality and said bill payer interactivity functionality

are further adapted to present substantially the same information to said plurality

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- of billers and said bill payers in order to allow said plurality of billers to interact
- with said bill payers regarding said same information.
- 1 52. 51. (Currently Amended) A An electronic bill presentment and payment
- system for presenting and paying bills, bills via the Internet, said system
- 3 comprising:
- a modularized input processing engine, said input processing engine
- adapted to preprocess billing data from a plurality of billers corresponding to a
- 6 plurality of data types;
- a parsing engine including parsing functionality which is adapted to parse
- said billing data from a plurality of billers using rules of conversion according to
- 9 which said parsing functionality is programmed, said billing data corresponding to
- said plurality of data types, and to provide relevant information for further use by
- 11 said system;
- a common document model processing functionality adapted to
- transform said relevant information into a common document model, which said
- common document model is adapted to accommodate relevant information from
- said plurality of billers and according to said plurality of data types;
- a database adapted to store said transformed information from
- said common document model processing functionality; and
- a presentation functionality adapted to retrieve information
- 19 from said database and output at least some of said information via a network for

- use by bill payers.
- 1 53. 52. (Currently Amended) The system according to elaim 52, Claim 51, further
- 2 comprising an interactivity functionality adapted to detect and respond to
- 3 communications from said bill payers, payers by at least (i) retrieving information
- 4 from said database and presenting it to said bill payers in a form requested by said
- bill payers; and (ii) altering information in said database corresponding to said bill
- 6 payers according to said communications.
- 54. 53. (Currently Amended) The system according to elaim 52, Claim 51, further
- 2 comprising a financial source interface adapted to send and receive
- 3 communications to and from at least one financial entity and to alter information
- 4 in said database according to said financial source communications.
- 55. 54. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 52, Claim 51, further
- 2 comprising a financial source interface adapted to send and receive
- 3 communications to and from at least one financial entity based at least in part on
- 4 communications from said bill payers and to alter information in said database
- 5 corresponding to said bills of said payers, according at least in part to said
- 6 financial source communications.
- 56. 55. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 52, Claim 51, further
- 2 comprising an interactivity functionality adapted to detect and respond detecting

- and responding to communications from bill payers, said plurality of billers by at
- 4 least (i) retrieving information from said database and presenting it to said bill
- 5 payers plurality of billers in a form requested by said bill payers plurality of billers
- and (ii) altering information in said database corresponding to said bill payers
- 7 plurality of billers according to said communications.
- 1 57. 56. (Cancelled)
- 1 58. 57. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 52, Claim 51, further
- 2 comprising a biller interface coupled to said database adapted to allow said
- plurality of billers to identify market segments of said bill payers according to
- 4 market rules and information retrieved from said database.
- 59. 58. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 52, Claim 51, further
- 2 comprising <u>an</u> interactivity functionality adapted to detect and respond to
- 3 communications from said plurality of billers regarding market segments of said
- 4 bill payers by retrieving information from said database and altering appearance
- 5 and content of bills presented to said bill payers based on said communications.
- 1 60. 59. (Currently Amended) The system according to elaim 52, Claim 51., further
- 2 comprising an interactivity functionality adapted to detect and respond to
- 3 communications from said plurality of billers regarding market segments of said
- 4 bill payers by retrieving information from said database and sending marketing

- 5 messages to said bill payers based on said communications.
- 1 61. 60. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 52, Claim 51, further
- 2 comprising an agent interface coupled to said database adapted to allow a plurality
- of agents having agency relationships with said plurality of billers to communicate
- 4 with said bill payers regarding bills.
- 1 62. 61. (Cancelled)
- 1 63. 62. (Currently Amended) A method of providing electronic bill presentment
- and payment services, <u>said method</u> comprising the steps of:
- modularizing the preprocessing of billing data from a plurality of billers
- 4 corresponding to a plurality of data types;
- extracting relevant information from said billing data, corresponding to said
- 6 plurality of data types, from said plurality of billers using rules of conversion;
- 7 transforming said relevant information into a common document model,
- 8 which said common document model is adapted to accommodate said relevant
- 9 information from said plurality of billers and according to said plurality of data
- 10 types;
- storing said transformed information from said common
- document model in a database; and
- retrieving said transformed information from said database and
- outputting at least some of said information via a network for use by bill payers.

- 64. 63. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 63, Claim 62, wherein said
- billing data is extracted from a print stream of data provided by said plurality of
- 3 billers.
- 1 65. 64. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 63, Claim 62, wherein said
- billing data is extracted from a data interchange stream of data provided by said
- 3 plurality of billers.
- 1 66. 65. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 63, Claim 62, wherein said
- billing data is extracted from a financial data stream provided by said plurality of
- 3 billers.
- 1 67. 66. (Cancelled)
- 1 68. 67. (Cancelled)
- 1 69. 68. (Cancelled)
- 1 70. 69. (Cancelled)
- 1 71. 70. (Cancelled)
- 1 72. 71. (Currently Amended) A An electronic bill presentment and payment
- system for presenting and paying bills, bills via the Internet, said system
- 3 comprising:

4	a modularized input processing engine, wherein said input processing
5	engine is adapted to preprocess billing data from a plurality of billers, said input
6	processing engine a parsing engine including a parsing functionality which is
7	adapted to parse said billing data from a said plurality of billers using rules of
8	conversion according to which the parsing functionality is programmed,
9	corresponding to a plurality of data types, and to provide relevant information for
10	further use by said system; information, said rules of conversion being a rules
11	application process, allowing a user to generate a translator for parsing the billing
12	data into a common document tree;
13	a common document model processing functionality adapted to transform
14	said relevant information into a common document model, said common
15	document model is adapted to accommodate said relevant information from said
16	plurality of billers and according to said plurality of data types; types, wherein said
17	common document tree contains data and attributes which are mapped into nodes
18	which fit said common document model for storage;
19	a database adapted to store said transformed information from said common
20	document model processing functionality;
21	presentation functionality adapted to retrieve information from said
22	database and output at least some of said information via a network for use by bill
23	payers; and
24	control functionality adapted to allow said plurality of billers to control at



- 25 least one of said parsing functionality, said common document model
- 26 functionality, said database functionality, and said presentation functionality.
- bill payer interactivity functionality adapted to detect and respond to
- 28 communications from said bill payers by at least retrieving from said database
- 29 information corresponding to said bill payers and presenting said information to
- said bill payers in a form requested by said bill payers; and
- biller interactivity functionality adapted to detect and respond to
- 32 communications from said plurality of billers by at least retrieving from said
- 33 database information corresponding to said plurality of billers and presenting said
- information to said plurality of billers in a form requested by said plurality of
- 35 billers.
- 1 73. 72. (Currently Amended) The system according to elaim 72, Claim 71, further
- 2 comprising an interactivity functionality adapted to detect and respond to
- 3 communications from said bill payers, payers by at least (i) retrieving information
- 4 from said database and presenting it to said bill payers in a form requested by said
- bill payers; and (ii) altering information in said database corresponding to said bill
- 6 payers according to said communications.
- 1 74. 73. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 72, Claim 71, further
- 2 comprising a financial source interface adapted to send and receive
- 3 communications to and from at least one financial entity and to alter information

- 4 in said database according to said financial source communications.
- 1 75. 74. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 72, Claim 71, further
- 2 comprising a financial source interface adapted to send and receive
- 3 communications to and from at least one financial entity based at least in part on
- 4 communications from said bill payers and to alter information in said database
- 5 corresponding to said bills of said payers, according at least in part to said
- 6 financial source communications.
- 1 76. 75. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 72, Claim 71, further
- 2 comprising an interactivity functionality adapted to detect and respond detecting
- and responding to communications from bill payers, said plurality of billers by at
- 4 least (i) retrieving information from said database and presenting it to said bill
- 5 payers plurality of billers in a form requested by said bill payers plurality of billers
- and (ii) altering information in said database corresponding to said bill payers
- 7 plurality of billers according to said communications.
- 1 77. 76. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 72, Claim 71, further
- 2 comprising an interactivity functionality adapted to send and receive sending and
- 3 receiving communications to and from at least one financial entity based at least in
- 4 part on communications from said bill payers and to alter information in said
- database corresponding to said bills of said bill payers, according at least in part to
- 6 said communications.

- 1 78. 77. (Currently Amended) The system according to elaim 72, Claim 71, further
- 2 comprising a biller interface coupled to said database adapted to allow said
- 3 plurality of billers to identify market segments of said bill payers according to
- 4 market rules and information retrieved from said database.
- 1 79. 78. (Currently Amended) The system according to elaim 72, Claim 71, further
- 2 comprising an interactivity functionality adapted to detect and respond to
- 3 communications from said plurality of billers regarding market segments of said
- 4 bill payers by retrieving information from said database and altering appearance
- 5 and content of bills presented to said bill payers based on said communications.
- 1 80. 79. (Currently Amended) The system according to elaim 72, Claim 71, further
- comprising an interactivity functionality adapted to detect and respond to
- 3 communications from said plurality of billers regarding market segments of said
- 4 bill payers by retrieving information from said database and sending marketing
- 5 messages to said bill payers based on said communications.
- 81. 80. (Currently Amended) The system according to elaim 72, Claim 71, further
- 2 comprising an agent interface coupled to said database adapted to allow a plurality
- of agents having agency relationships with said plurality of billers to communicate
- 4 with said bill payers regarding bills.
- 5 82. 81. (Currently Amended) The system according to elaim 72, Claim 71, further



comprising bill payer interactivity functionality adapted to detect and respond to 6 communications from said bill payers, by at least retrieving information from said 7 database corresponding to said bill payers and presenting said information to said 8 bill payers in a form requested by said bill payers; and biller interactivity 9 functionality adapted to detect and respond to communications from said plurality 10 of billers, by at least retrieving information from said database corresponding to 11 said plurality of billers and presenting said information to said plurality of billers 12 in a form requested by said plurality of billers. a control functionality adapted to 13 allow said plurality of billers to control at least one of said parsing functionality, 14 said common document model functionality, said database functionality, and said 15 presentation functionality. 16